

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SEOUL 04830 110313Z

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 /010 W

-----110317Z 032102 /73

P 110247Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4417

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 4830

EA ONLY

EYES ONLY FOR GLEYSTEN FROM AMBASSADOR SNEIDER

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: JA KS US

SUBJ: ENDO VISIT

REF A, STATE 134744; B, SEOUL 8495

1. HAVING BEEN FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS AT THE RECEIVING END OF KOREAN OBJECTIONS TO US/JAPANESE CONSULTATIONS ON KOREA, I CAN FULLY UNDERSTAND YOUR DECISION TO GO AHEAD WITH ENDO VISIT. IN FACT, I HESITATED ABOUT SENDING OUR OBJECTIONS (REF B), BUT WENT AHEAD FOR REASONS OTHER THAN STATED IN OUR MESSAGE.

2. VERY FRANKLY, MY PROBLEMS RELATE MUCH MORE TO ENDO PERSONALLY WHOM I HAVE DEALT WITH FOR A NUMBER OF YEARS, FIRST IN WASHINGTON, THEN IN TOKYO AND FINALLY HERE IN SEOUL. HE IS ONE OF GAIMUSHO'S UNQUIETOUS AND IMAGINATIVE YOUNGER OFFICERS, WHO WHILE NOT UNFRIENDLY, HAS CAUSED US PROBLEMS IN THE PAST. IF HE IS UP TO HIS USUAL FORM, HE WILL ATTEMPT TO FERRET OUT EVERY BIT OF INFORMATION HE CAN DIG UP AND THEN FILL IN THE SPACE BETWEEN THE LINES, SOMETIMES UNHELPFULLY. MY CONVERSATIONS HERE WITH HIM HAVE BEEN ALMOST CLASSIC IN KNOCKING DOWN
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SOME STRANGE FLIGHTS OF FANCY, INCLUDING A SCENARIO INVOLVING ROKG ATTACKS AGAINST THE NORTH. JAPANESE AMBASSADOR HERE, FYI, HAS BEEN RUDELY UNCOMPLIMENTARY ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS ABOUT ENDO'S OPERATIONS. I WILL GIVE YOU THE BACKGROUND ON HIS WASHINGTON BIT WHEN I SEE YOU NEXT.

3. I HESITATE TO PUT ON MY JAPANESE HAT, BUT SEND THIS
TO YOU PERSONALLY AS A FLAG TO WARN PEOPLE DEALING WITH
ENDO TO BE CAREFUL. OUR CONSULTATIONS HERE WITH THE
KOREANS ARE NOW ON TRACK WITH THE SUSPICION THAT WE ARE
COLLUDING WITH THE JAPANESE FULLY PUT TO REST. IT WOULD
BE A SHAME IF WHAT IS ESSENTIALLY A MINOR EFFORT
CONSISTENT WITH OUR TOTAL POSTURE ON CONSULTATION WITH
JAPANESE SHOULD BACKFIRE AND UNDERMINE THIS MOOD.
SNEIDER

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NNN

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